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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

SERIAL NO.: 08/160,965

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APPLICANT: Musser et al.

EXAMINER: Ja-Na Hines

TITLE: Vaccines Containing Cysteine
Protease and Methods to
Protect Against Group A
Streptococci

ART UNIT: 1641

Box AF
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT/RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

This is responsive to the Examiner's Action mailed February 2, 2000. Applicants request reconsideration of the application in view of the remarks that follow.

AMENDMENT

In the Claims

1. (Twice Amended) A vaccine for use in an animal against Group A streptococcal infection, comprising:
a physiologically acceptable non-toxic vehicle containing a conserved cysteine protease in an amount sufficient to confer immunity to Group A streptococcal infection.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on JUNE 2, 2000
Sharon E. O'Brien
Sharon E. O'Brien 6.2.2000
Signature Date